This publication is an assembly of different articles written by various members and sympathizers of Tacoma SDS.



To reach Tacoma SDS send emails to: tacomasds@yahoo.com

For more information on Tacoma SDS please visit: tacomasds.org





Students for a Democratic Society

Who are students?

To be a student is merely to be one who desires to learn. Some of us are students of a university, but we are also students of our own lives, of our local community and spheres of influence, of a world that is changing at the pace of history. We are professors, staff, citizens, and workers. But what unites us is a shared effort to understand.

What is democracy?

We are concerned with democracy in the truest sense of the word: the freedom of all people to rule themselves. Democracy permeates all aspects of our lives. Democracy is not passive observation, or participation at sanctioned dates and places; it is to continually evaluate and engage events, policies, and institutions that threaten our voices and ability to act.

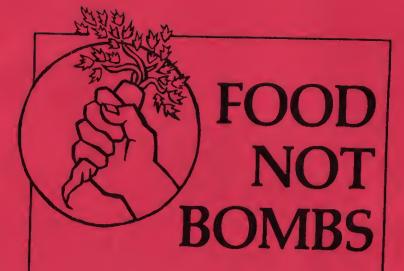
Why society?

Society is larger than neighborhoods, cities, or nations; it is that formless entity that contains the totality of relationships between all life. The society we envision is a truly democratic one, in which we are all students of each other and teacher to none.

If you or someone you know is interested in joining sds, ordering bulk zines, or contributing to our next issue, please send all emails to tacomasds@yahoo.com. Thank you.







The money spent by the world on weapons in one week is enough to feed all the people on Earth for a year. When millions of people go hungry each day how can we spend another dollar on war? If you feel that people need food more than bombs we want you to call us today. The next few years could profoundly change the world for generations and Food Not Bombs is working to make those changes positive for everyone.

The Food Not Bombs organization is starting several projects in our area:

- * Free food distribution to local people in need.
- * Literature tables to provide information about food, peace and justice.
- * Providing hot meals at demonstrations and events.
- ★ Organizing creative actions in protest of war and poverty.

We invite you to work with us to provide desperately needed services and information to our community. You can make a difference.

Visit us online at: tacomafoodnotbombs.org

To anarchists, pacifism is a position founded on privilege and inconsistency. They argue that pacifists are never the party with the most to lose in a serious situation. Likewise, there is a point in which any pacifist will resort to violence, be it actively or tacitly. They present confounding situations to which pacifists have not yet come up with a satisfactory reply.

For instance, regarding animal liberation: if a group breaks a window of a laboratory to free test animals, aren't they preventing the violence (by exercising violence) to the animals? If a vulnerable indigenous group struggles against land seizure by multinational companies and other imperialists would tribal members be acting immorally if they fought back? It would be difficult to say that indigenous violence against bulldozers is morally wrong. It may be the only effective method at their disposal.

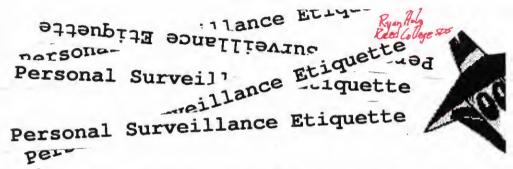


This all is reminiscent of an old Buddhist parable (from the Jataka Tales) about how the Buddha in a previous life met a boatman who the Buddha in his infinite wisdom knew would someday murder a large number of people. Without much in the way of a second thought the Buddha killed the boatman then and there. The Buddha decided to take the bad karma of killing the man upon himself in order to save the people in the future. He also felt compassion for the would-be murderer and wanted to save him the bad karma of killing all the people. The conclusion that the Buddha and most anarchists come to is that while a peaceful solution can sometimes be found to work well, violence is not morally wrong and is often more effective than non-violence.

So hopefully this has been helpful in understanding an anarchist position on violence. Despite the government crackdown on "domestic terrorism" it is clear that property damage is a tactic whose applications will continue to be in the news. May your new-found insight into the anarchist psyche help you in better analyzing the world around you.







While the National Security Agency's domestic spying program has mostly dropped out of the news these last few weeks, in favor of depressing news about escalating violence in Lebanon, Iraq and elsewhere, it should not be forgotten. President Bush and his Attorney General have made a clear case for the legality of the program, and we should trust him. He's the decider. He knows best and it would be un-American to oppose him.

Anyway, let us recap what the NSA program is all about. It is about aggregating data from voice communications. In layman's terms, that means spying — it means spying on everything and everyone. After all the spying has been done, they will take all the information gleaned from the operation, dump it into a gigantic database and sift through it hoping to find the next Bin Laden.

As Americans we should cooperate with the NSA to the best of our ability. After all, the people they have hired to listen in are only trying to earn an honest buck. I have outlined three quick and easy rules for being an information-age patriot when talking on the phone:

- 1) Speak clearly and annunciate when you are delivering your message. This is the big one. Talking in code is something only a terrorist would do. If you whisper or try to disguise your voice you are just being a jerk. These evesdroppers are just doing their job.
- 2) Focus on the important stuff. Cut the chit-chat. Stick to buzzwords when you can. This will help our good ol' boys at the NSA keep from wasting their time listening to you complain about Aunt Mildred when they could be fighting terrorism.
- 3) Use keywords that will easily attract the attention of the listeners, and say them slightly louder... "I so I was walking home PRESIDENT with BOMB this really TERRORIST cute boy, and, like, oh my gosh WORKING CLASS, he offered to, like, carry SAME-SEX MARRIAGES my books...."

Remember, the fight against terrorism begins with you, the average American. Andrew Moll is a surly Linux geek who sets all of his passwords to "password" as a courtesy to

Big Brother

State of the Union

The collective bargaining entities known as unions are one of the few remnants of the Old "Leftover Left" Left. Historically, unions were the result of shockingly poor work conditions during the industrial revolution. At the time, workers were leaving their homes and coming to work in factories. But while these new jobs provided (limited) opportunities for a single laborer in a single home, the wages, poor living conditions, and environment degradation associated with factories tore through the fabric of society. However, what was on most workers' minds was not the society itself but their own welfare. While wondering how to remedy their ailing situations and alleviate their dire poverty, they took to unionizing.

Workers realized that it would hardly have an effect on the textile industry if they refused to work for such low wages, but an entire factory stopping the looms is really something to reckon with. Oft maligned by management and the middle and higher classes in general, unions have been accused of widespread corruption and harming workers in recent years.

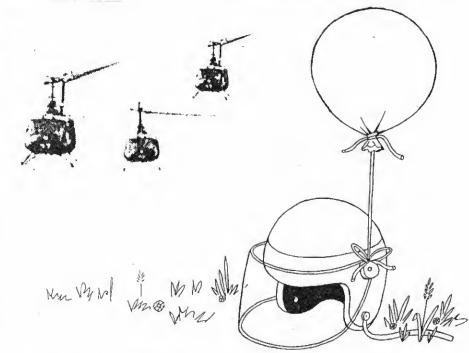


I really started to doubt the nobility of union organizations because of my father. I come from a family that would have been considered upper-middle class until more recently when the economy shifted and my father changed jobs. We now probably fall in the mid-to-lower middle class, despite my parent's desperate attempts to cling to their previous lifestyles. I have managed to reject most of their cultural attitudes and I can anticipate most of their shocking statements, but the following outburst from my father caught me



First a disclaimer: He claims have experience interacting with a "large number" of unions. This is probably true. The companies he worked for, however, have never been very friendly to them. I have no experience working with unions.

the army is violent to people, the police are violent to people, jails are violent to people. Any unauthorized action of property destruction is made to seem like the most heinous of crimes yet most Americans still sleep soundly within their system predicated on real violence to real people. We pay taxes to keep the violence from stopping.



Anarchists advocating property destruction (commonly referred to as "direct action") do not believe violence and only violence can achieve their political ends. Unlike pacifism, which states that the only legitimate means to achieve any ends is by non-violence, the direct action camp try to broaden the horizons of the endeavor. Changing society is a complex process and most engaged anarchists generally agree that a diversity of tactics is needed. In fact, an accurate mantra of anarchist philosophy is that "there is no one right way." Anarchists usually try to re-frame this argument so that it is a discussion of tactical effectiveness (a combination of the impression it creates on the people who witness and participate in them, the media spin that will influence public opinion, the act in itself, and other things). Unlike the military-industrial complex, anarchists will also not treat violence as an end in itself. The questions they ask are: Will this or that action have the intended effect both in the short run and the long run? Are the means ethically and logically consistent with the ends we would like to create?

Reframing the Debate on Violence

American political discourse is led on a leash by the corporate media. Dissenting voices fight an uphill battle just to be heard. When these voices finally can be heard it is only when they are de-contextualized and "spun" to achieve the political ends of the corporate media.

like this one are so important. This is one reason why independent publications



But however important independent media may be, many issues require more than just space on a page. When this is the case, political discourse takes to the advocating the "discourse in the streets" or actively engaging in it. Groups like the Earth Liberation Front and Animal Liberation Front are now notorious for streets... so to speak. Anarchists, often identified in the media as the most subversive and agitated political faction in the political fray, can be found either a number of (ongoing!) direct actions. They have earned contemporary But who exactly are these black-masked bomb-throwers? What exactly is the anarchists the reputation of being not only treacherous but also very violent. connection between their ideology and violence?

real living creatures) it also maintains the state monopoly debate. If we limit ourselves to the because it takes away the graveness of violence against discourse. The painful irony monopolizing the pejorative uses of the term 'violence' the largest domestic threat to national of anarchists we lose the crucial significance of both ALF are now being described as term to things like property To lift any meaning out of these questions we need to destruction. It is terrible to make this mistake on the action of violence. The ELF and about the mainstream media is that by media's definition of violence and caricature (and misapplying the adjust the frame of the violence and political

The conversation went something like this...

F - "You think I'm lying to you?
The longshoremen union. They're the worst. They threatened to kill your un-born sister and they damaged my F - "Before she was born, they damaged my car, and threatened to kill your F - "I didn't say all unions, but I've dealt with a lot and that's what they're like! <pause> Do you believe me?" F - "They're crooks, rogues and thieves." "Whatl?" F = fatherM = me

Perhaps there is a grain of truth in what he has said. I would not be surprised if all unions, and union-like activities, can be written off. My postman, who I some union leadership has succumbed to corruption, but I do not believe that stopped and chatted with a few weeks ago, described how his union works. Apparently, the leadership rotates, so lots of different people go through the

leadership roles, for lengths of about three months.

and an allusion to the McCarthy hearings only served to unsettle me more Needless to say, I was shocked and appalled, not only by his obscen-The ensuing jokes about my mother's involvement with the teacher's union generalization regarding unions, but also the extreme examples he pulled out

packages. I suppose I cannot blame him. His mind has been made up on all the issues, and he has devoted himself to a moderate political view, which is so far When I brought up the postal example, my father became angry, and accused the post office of providing poor service because the primarily immigrant workers at his branch were actively discriminating against him and his

from the paradise I can see, far off to the Left.

unions? Is all union leadership twisted and corrupted? I want to know what an reader has to say, especially if you have been part of a union before. Please Honestly, I don't have enough information. What is the current state of

email me at andrew@moink.net.

have claimed absolutely no injuries.

security although their actions

On the other hand,

Industrial Workers of the World

Why all workers should join the One Big Union

The year 2006 not only celebrates the I.W.W.'s 101st birthday but stands as a strong pivoting point in industrial unionism. This year the Starbuck's Corporation has endured major criticisms by mainstream media and coffee consumers for firing I.W.W. union members strictly for union activity. This union busting tactic has backfired against Starbucks as new

information regarding unfair labor practices and lack of worker benefits has come to light. The I.W.W. has also recently and successfully organized the Landmark owned Shattuck Cinema's in Berkeley, CA. The pressure this put on Landmark resulted in a national raise from \$7.25 to \$8.00 an hour for all Landmark workers. These events, along with many others, are the positive evidence of a reemergence of industrial unionism.

candidates and never tellS workers how to vote. The I.W.W. also allows on income, so as not to burden lower income workers with high dues. The spending their money and have adopted positive ways to ensure worker workers to not pay dues if they feel the Union is not doing a good job; I.W.W., unlike many unions, never spends any money supporting political money is being spent. The Wobblies collect dues on a sliding scale, based union spending at least 8 times a year so that workers know exactly where satisfaction and efficient spending. They print an up-to-date catalog of all outstanding differences are what have been drawing people to the One Big for the I.W.W., believe that workers should know where their Union is the I.W.W. would like to see in all industries. The Wobblies, the nickname workers they represent). Worker ownership is the truly democratic ideal past to make decisions that better their own situations and not the business unions there are no union leaders (which have been known in the Union since 1905. The I.W.W. is completely worker run and unlike many there is no penalty for disliking your union. The I.W.W. is not like most unions in a variety of dimensions. These

The goal of the I.W.W. is to build One Big Union for all the workers of the world and to eliminate bosses through campaigns of general strikes and

In 1991, the university again put up a fence around the park to construct volleyball courts there as part of a "cleanup" plan it had made with the city of Berkeley. Their idea of cleanup was to rid the park of its homeless population by shutting down the free food distribution and free clothes boxes. Protests raged on and for the next three nights, the police fired wooden and rubber bullets at the demonstrators. The volleyball courts stood from 1991 to 1997, when finally the university removed them due to complete non-use.



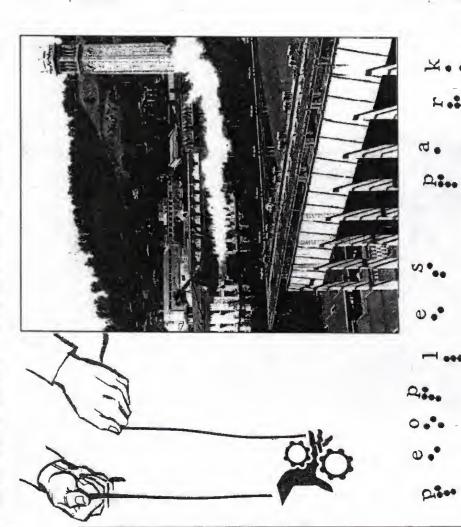




Many great programs and organizations have come out of the People's Park movement. The Berkeley Free Clinic was started on Bloody. Thursday to give emergency care to injured protesters and continues to give free health care to people in need. Food Not Bombs continues to serve hundreds of people each day in the park. Free concerts and celebrations are continually happening at People's Park and the used development attitude has been continually and successfully present in the park. People's Park is just one example of putting people before profits.



ucurous raged on. The National Guard sprayed CS tear gas on the campus from a helicopter. Student's all over became involved in the People's Park protests and 9000 students protested in Sacramento. Fifteen days after Bloody Thursday, 30,000 peaceful protesters marched down to the Park to protest the fence. The fence stayed up. During the summer organizers had baked wire cutters into loaves of bread and marched down to the park to tear down the fence, they were successful in dismantling the fence but it was quickly rebuilt and remained heavily guarded.



In 1972, after Nixon announced the mining of North Vietnam's main port, a mad crowd which started with 200-300 people, grew into the thousands and during the night the fence was tore down. In 1979, the UC paved over the free parking lot and turned it into a student fee lot. Over 200 people broke up the Asphalt with pickaxes and in November a tent city was established in protest. The university gave up the parking lot and the pavement was used to build a garden.

solidarity within industries. The Wobblies see class relations between the working class and the ruling class as the ultimate concern for political and economic change. Only when the working class owns and controls the means of production will there be peace for all workers. In the words of the I.W.W. "We don't need the bosses, the bosses need us."



Join the I.W.W. at www.iww.org
For news and updates on the Starbuck's Union visit
www.starbucksunion.org
For news and updates on the Shattuck Worker's Union visit
www.shattuckunion.iww.org



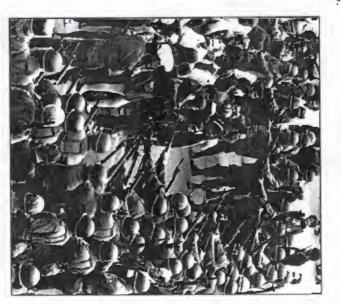
elicia Flanders

I called my Dad today, just to check in, disrupting his and my brother Max's Netflix ritual of Smallville yet again. I decided not to be considerate and kept talking anyway because rude or not, I have no qualms interrupting an episode they can watch anytime. Everything seems to be fine all around, my junior year is going well so far, good classes, good times in my new house. It's the same on their end. Dad has been exercising more. Mom is still working too much. Max is overdosing on video games. Dad passes the phone over to Max and we do our ritual where I try to get him to tell me about what is happening in his life outside of school, friends, girls, etc.

I try and flatter myself into thinking that I'm the cool kind of sister, someone he can ask those embarrassing girl questions to. I used to ambush him by holding out the back of one of my old bras to him, taut, and say "Max, get your practice in on this one, the faster you learn to unsnap it, the more stress you will save yourself and the lady." He got it down to a second but has yet to try it out in real life as far as I know. Today he seems a little out of it though, not doing his embarrassed laugh, and he finally says "Felicia, I don't really want to be the one to break it to you but Marco is going to Iraq."

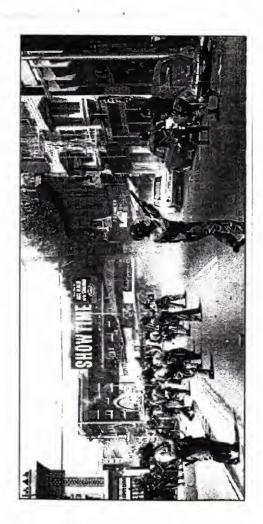
It's true we're not the closest of cousins
-- I know he and Max are closer for sure -- but
he's a part of my life. I used to drive us to high
school at the ass crack of dawn not even
three years ago. My lanky cousin finally
joined the National Guard out of what
seemed like boredom more than anything else.
We all tucked our apprehension away behind smiles
saying "well, at least he's doing something with his
life." Then he came home and everyone was
relieved that he was out of that world, we
were glad just to have him sitting on the couch
eating Cheetos, and now going to the gym as
well which he'd never done

of his wounds. and James Rector, a man watching from a rooftop, was shot and later died individuals with shotguns. 128 people were injured, one man was blinded of what happened next. The police fired into crowds of people and a crowd. This day was to be remembered as "Bloody Thursday" as a resul police. The Berkeley police then retaliated by firing tear gas into the shut off the water, protesters began to throw rocks and bottles at the suggested they go down and take back the park. The crowd of 6,000 around the park. Protester's quickly organized and met at Sproul Plaza to built a fence around the park's entire perimeter and cleared an 8-block are: 250 Highway Patrol and Berkeley police officers to People's Park. They negotiations were moving in a promising direction for the People's Park of the park. For the three weeks that followed the parks construction in their negotiations with the University over land ownership and control One of the protesters opened a fire hydrant and as the police moved in to decide what their next actions should be. One of the student leaders Committee. Until suddenly, at 4:45am on May 15, 1969, the UC mobilized people marched down Telegraph and were met by 250 police with rifles A People's Park Committee was established to represent the people



The next day, then Governor Ronald Regan, sent 3000 Nationa Guard troops into Berkeley introducing a city curfew and policy banning freedom of assembly. This only fueled the protesters and mass

The History of People's Park

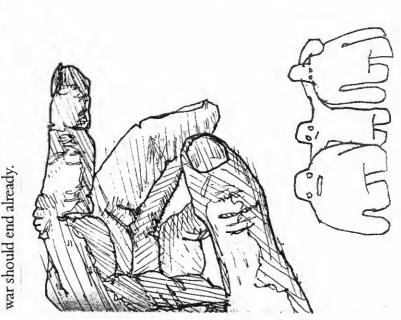


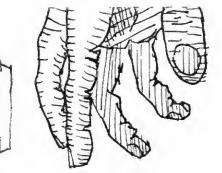
People's Park is located a short half block from Telegraph Avenue in Berkeley, California. The park is now home to the infamous East Bay Food Not Bombs group which serves free food in the park every weekday. The park is used for free concerts and political speech as well as gardening, activist meetings, and just hanging out while enjoying the park. Although it appears to have always been this way, People's Park has a long and quite intense past.

In late 1968, the University of California sent eviction notices to the residents of what is now People's Park and bulldozed their homes. Oddly enough, the residents that were evicted happened to be radicals and hippies which the University wanted out of Berkeley. The UC bought the land in the mid sixties and planned to use it for dorms but never ended up doing so, even after the homes were bulldozed. After about a year of the lot remaining vacant and muddy, an article was run in an underground magazine urging the people of Berkeley to bring materials to the lot to create a "People's Park." Hundreds of hippies, activists, street people, and residents of Berkeley showed up to lay down sod, plant trees and flowers, build playground equipment, and share free food in what was now truly the People's Park. User development was key in building the park, it was a place built by the people and for the people without bureaucratic setbacks or city permits. It was a place and a symbol of freedom.

before but Max says that they called and now come October its goodbye for however many months and the reality of it is so much closer. Sure I knew people who knew people who were in Iraq, my ex-boyfriend used to come and see me in a funk and I'd know that he'd just gotten an e-mail from his brother overseas; but it had never been, well it had never been Marco.

It seems so clear now. I mean, he could die, and not in the random sense where any one of us could get ran over by a blind bus driver, but he could really really die. He is in a place where that is what happens, people die, American and Iraqi. I realize I'd much rather have my cousin around when I go home for the holidays than have some slightly greater sense of security. In fact I'll feel less secure when he goes out there, and a lot fucking less secure if he doesn't come back. I know people say there are reasons for why we are out there: liberal and conservative, oil, fighting terrorism, blah blah. There are many reasons and they are complicated, and when I think about it I do care, I can find things to say about it, but the truth is I usually don't. I usually don't think about it in general. I know I'm not alone. How many of us really do spend time working and thinking on it? Between watching 24 or writing a letter in protest, nine times out of ten I'll watch TV. But what if it was Max and not Marco? I don't even know. So this is my one out of ten letter, let me just say that, this





O O O O O TEST

Vote Yes on Amendment Three:

The state of Washington has had trouble finding a Primary System that is palatable to both its citizens and political parties for a few years now. In 2004, Washington's Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals struck down Washington's traditional blanket-primary as unconstitutional because it infringed on the rights of the state's political parties. The court decreed that the blanket-primary violated political parties' right of association. Washington then instituted a Montana-style primary, in which voters picked from a list of candidates within a specific political party. The voters did not care for this system due to its restraints on voter choice, and replaced it in November 2005 with Initiative 872, passing with over 60% of the vote. Under this initiative the top two candidates from the primary went on to the general election, regardless of political party. Political parties in Washington filed suit, and the initiative was rejected by the same court that rejected the blanket-primary for the same reason.

Pierce County now has a solution to this problem, which will appear on the November ballot. Amendment Three calls for the use of instant runoff voting for all Pierce County elections. Like the blanket primary and I-872 before it, Amendment Three gives voters the choice of any candidate, regardless of party. Unlike those two systems, however, it protects the freedom of association of political parties, and is thus constitutional. It's a win-win for both Washington voters and Washington political parties.

Instant runoff voting is a system in which voters rank as many candidates as they want to, as opposed to voting for just one candidate. If any candidate receives more than 50% of first place votes right off the bat, they win the election. If no candidate receives a majority, then the last-place candidate is eliminated and those votes are allocated to the voters' second choices. This process continues until a candidate receives a majority of votes.

The benefits of IRV, which is also referred to as ranked-choice voting, are numerous. First off, it eliminates the spoiler effect (think Nader in 2000 and Perot in 1992 and 1996). Voters are free to vote for a third party without detracting from their primary candidate. Second, it eliminates primaries, saving taxpayers money. Third, it creates more positive campaigning, as candidates do not want to scare off voters who may end up ranking them somewhere on their ballots. Fourth, it leads to higher voter turnout, as third party candidates now have a more legitimate shot of winning, so their followers have a reason to vote. Finally, it ensures that the winner of the election will receive majority support. Many elections in this country are won with less than 50% of the vote, including three of the last four presidential elections.

TOLERANCE REINTERPRETED

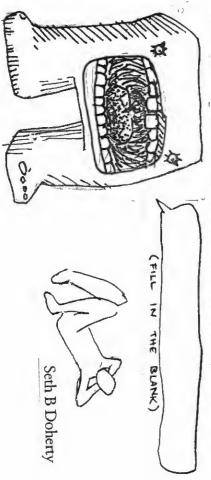
I am sick of the value of tolerance. I am sick of our society's emphasis on "tolerating" our differences. As a choice of words, it seems quite telling. The word has several definitions; the most relevant is probably "a sympathy or indulgence for beliefs or practices differing from one's own [or] the act of allowing something." And yet other definitions make the basis of this word clearer, "capacity to endure pain or hardship." We, as a society, have embraced "allowing" and "enduring" each other differences. Certainly, this is a step up from not tolerating each other, but it implies that our differences are something negative, something to put up with. Obviously, in the face of racism, sexism, heterosexism, and every other unhealthy prejudice, we have a politically correct assumption of "tolerance." This understanding really lessens our ability to process to a more unified, integrated society.

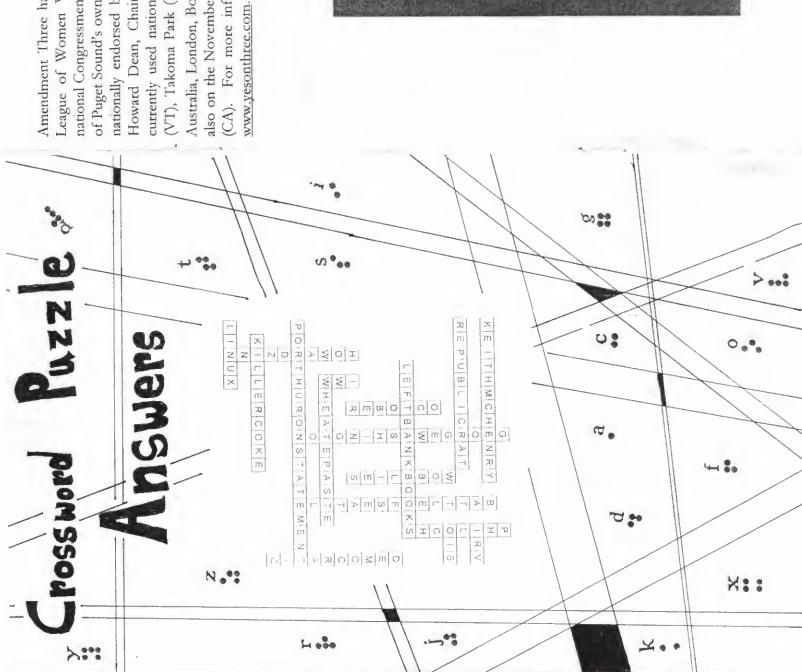




Why are discussions of difference in elementary schools so often limited to those same couple of days during black history month, that rarely go beyond listening to Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have A Dream" speech? I do not criticize the speech or the glorification of Dr. King's ideal, but we have only been given half of the story. How can one teach about Dr. King without teaching about Malcolm X? How can one tell the story of the fantasy version of the first Thanksgiving without telling the story of Wounded Knee?

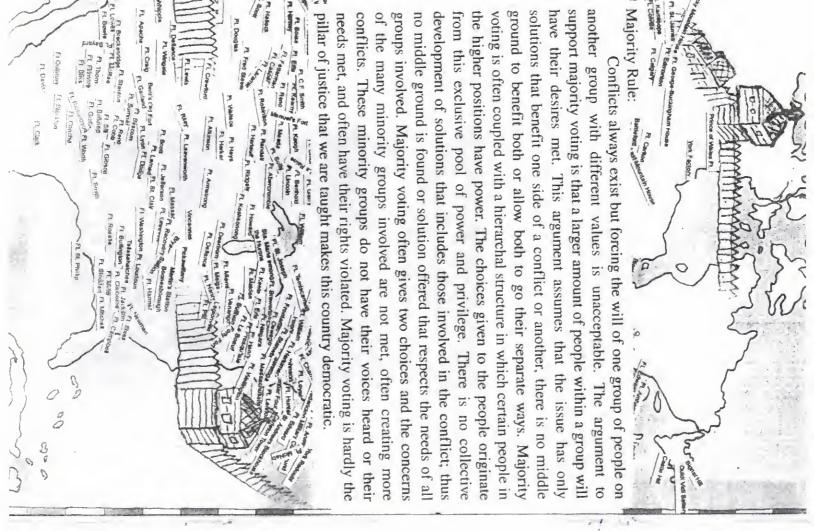
We need to start a more open dialogue about differences and we need to be willing to address conflict and tragedy while we embrace the dream. Only through an evaluation and open dialogue can we begin to move further than celebrating tolerance to fully embrace our complex and pluralistic society.





Amendment Three has a wide range of supporters, from the Pierce County League of Women Voters to former Nirvana bassist Krist Novoselic to national Congressmen Dennis Kucinich and Jesse Jackson Jr. to the University of Puget Sound's own Prof. Rich Anderson-Connolly. Instant runoff voting is nationally endorsed by Senator John McCain, Senator Barack Obama, and Howard Dean, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee. It is currently used nationally in San Francisco (CA), Berkeley (CA), Burlington (VT), Takoma Park (MD), and Ferndale (MI), and internationally in Ireland, Australia, London, Bosnia, Fiji, Papa New Guinea, Malta, and Sri Lanka. It is also on the November ballot in Minneapolis (MN), Oakland (CA), and Davis (CA). For more information on Amendment Three, or to donate, go to

By Erik Connell

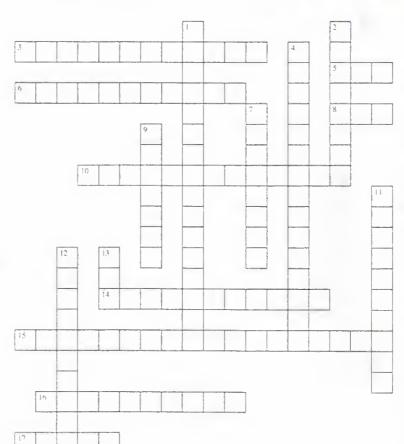


ACROSS

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- 5 Amendment Three
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- 8 Microsoft Loving Fiends (acronym)
- 10 Worker Owned Book Store (Seattle)
- 14 Form of Culture Jamming
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- 1 What famous slave owner is on the one dollar bill?
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- 13 Starbucks Union



paom Ssoum